

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1132 without my signature.

While I support the intent behind this measure and have signed several measures to improve the educational, social, mental and health care services for foster youth, I cannot sign this bill as currently proposed.

This measure is contingent on the receipt of matching federal funds. Since federal law currently requires states to conduct annual eligibility determinations for Medi-Cal beneficiaries, this measure cannot be implemented because the bill prohibits the department from requiring foster youth to complete any paperwork or provide any other information in order to receive benefits until the age of 21.

I would urge the Legislature to work with the department to craft a bill that makes health care services more accessible for our foster youth.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger